



FEMA



Prepared by
Kevin Rodriguez

FEMA Region 6 Weather Threat Briefing

Thursday, March 28, 2019

Disclaimer: The purpose of this briefing is to provide a **Regional** weather threat assessment and is meant as a general overview. County/Parish decision makers should consult their local NWS forecast offices for the latest detailed, local weather information.

To find your local NWS forecast office, go to www.weather.gov/srh.

Summary of the Upcoming Week



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Today

- Elevated fire weather conditions possible across **E NM/Far W TX**.

Tomorrow

- Slight risk area of severe storms across **OK**. Primary threat is for large hail.
- Critical fire weather conditions possible in **E NM**.

Saturday

- Isolated severe storms capable of producing hail/damaging winds possible in **E AR/NE LA**.
- Critical fire weather conditions possible in **E NM/W TX**.

Sunday - Monday

- No significant weather impacts expected.

River Flooding

- Moderate to major flooding will continue through March on the Mississippi River in **E AR/E LA**.
 - Impacts to shipping and industrial activities on the river, with numerous flooded roadways near the river.
 - All points have crested and many areas are forecast to drop into lower flood stages, but flooding will likely continue through April along the lower Mississippi River.
- A few rivers in portions of **AR/LA** will remain in minor flood stage with minimal impacts.

FEMA Region 6 Threat Matrix

Mar 28, 2019 – Apr 1, 2019



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DAY / THREAT	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON
Severe Storms		OK	E AR/NE LA		
Heavy Rain / Flash Flooding					
Winter Weather					
Fire Weather	NM/Far W TX	E NM NM/W TX	E NM/W TX		
River Flooding	E AR/E LA	E AR/E LA	E AR/E LA	E AR/E LA	E AR/E LA

	No Weather Threats Expected
	Very Common – Happens Often
	Common – Happens Frequently
	Uncommon – A Few Times a Year
	Rare – Once Every 1-5 Years
	Very Rare – Once Every 5-10 Years

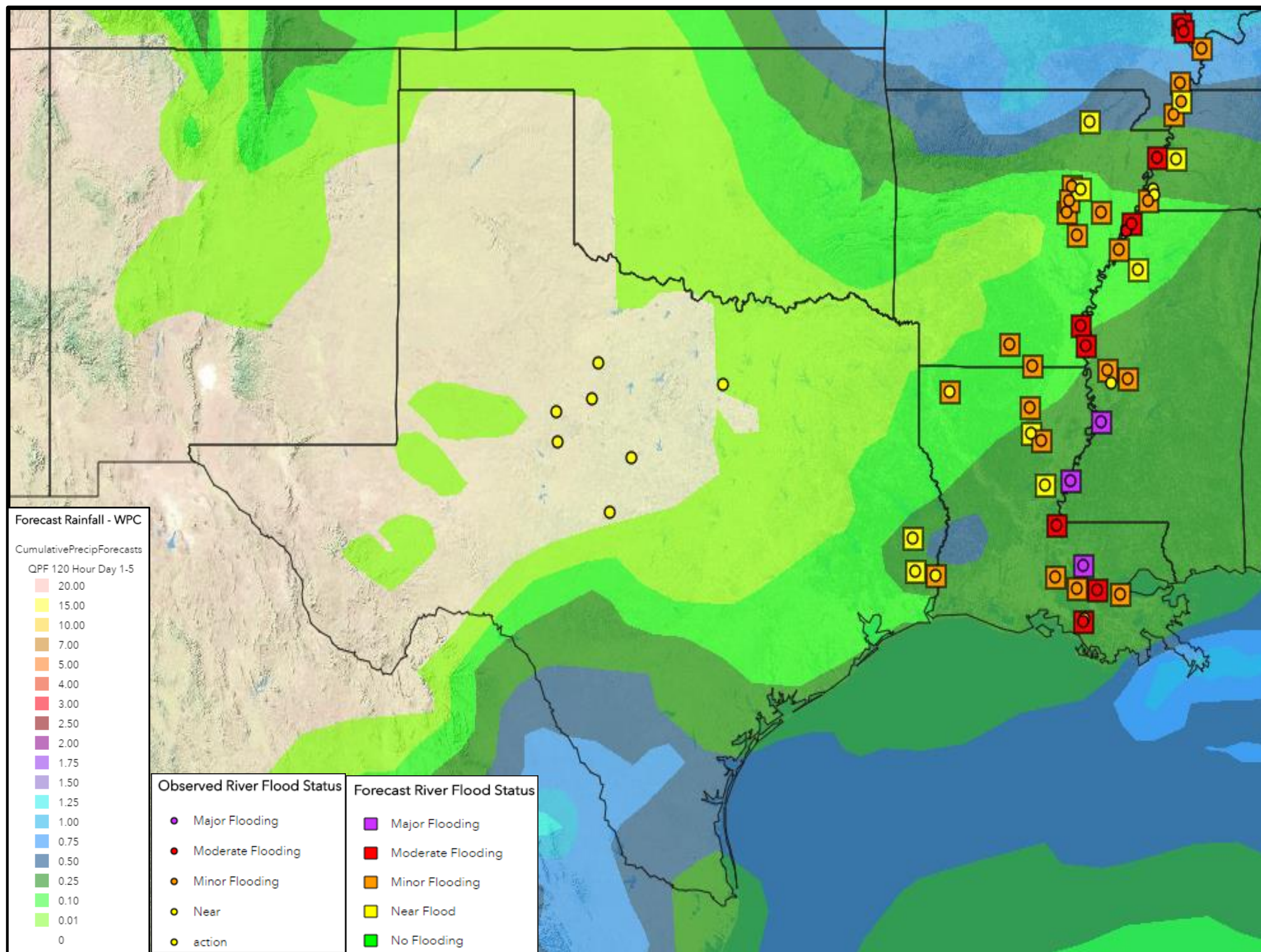
**Threat levels are based on FEMA Region 6 criteria.
State or local threat level criteria may differ.*
For more details on the colors in the threat matrix refer to the last slide in this briefing.*

5-Day Precipitation Forecast & River Flood Status



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Note: Even though the image displays 5 days of forecasted rainfall, river forecasts only include 1-2 days of rainfall



Moderate to Major flooding will continue into April on the Mississippi River in E AR/E LA. Keep in mind that current forecasts do not account for any additional rainfall or any flooding from the upstream portions of the Mississippi River.

Arkansas

- **MS River is in moderate to major flood in eastern AR, with flooding of county roads/fields along the river and most land inside the levee protections.**

Louisiana

- **MS River at Baton Rouge is at Major flood. Shipping and industrial activities are significantly affected.**
- **The Bonnet Carre Spillway is operating to reduce flow and maintain just under a 17.0ft stage at New Orleans. No significant impacts are noted.**

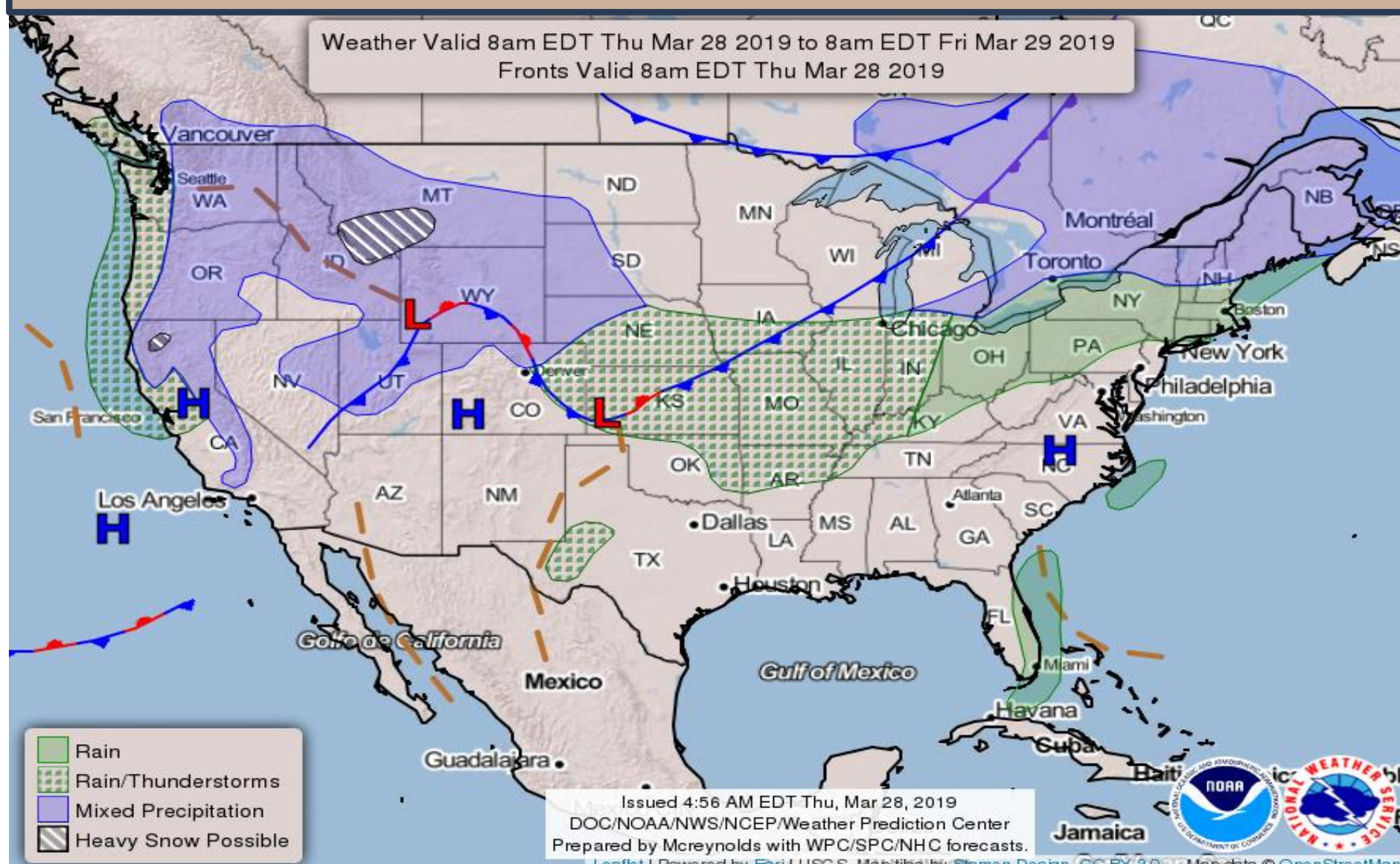
A few rivers in AR/LA are in minor flood stage with minimal impacts.

Today's Weather

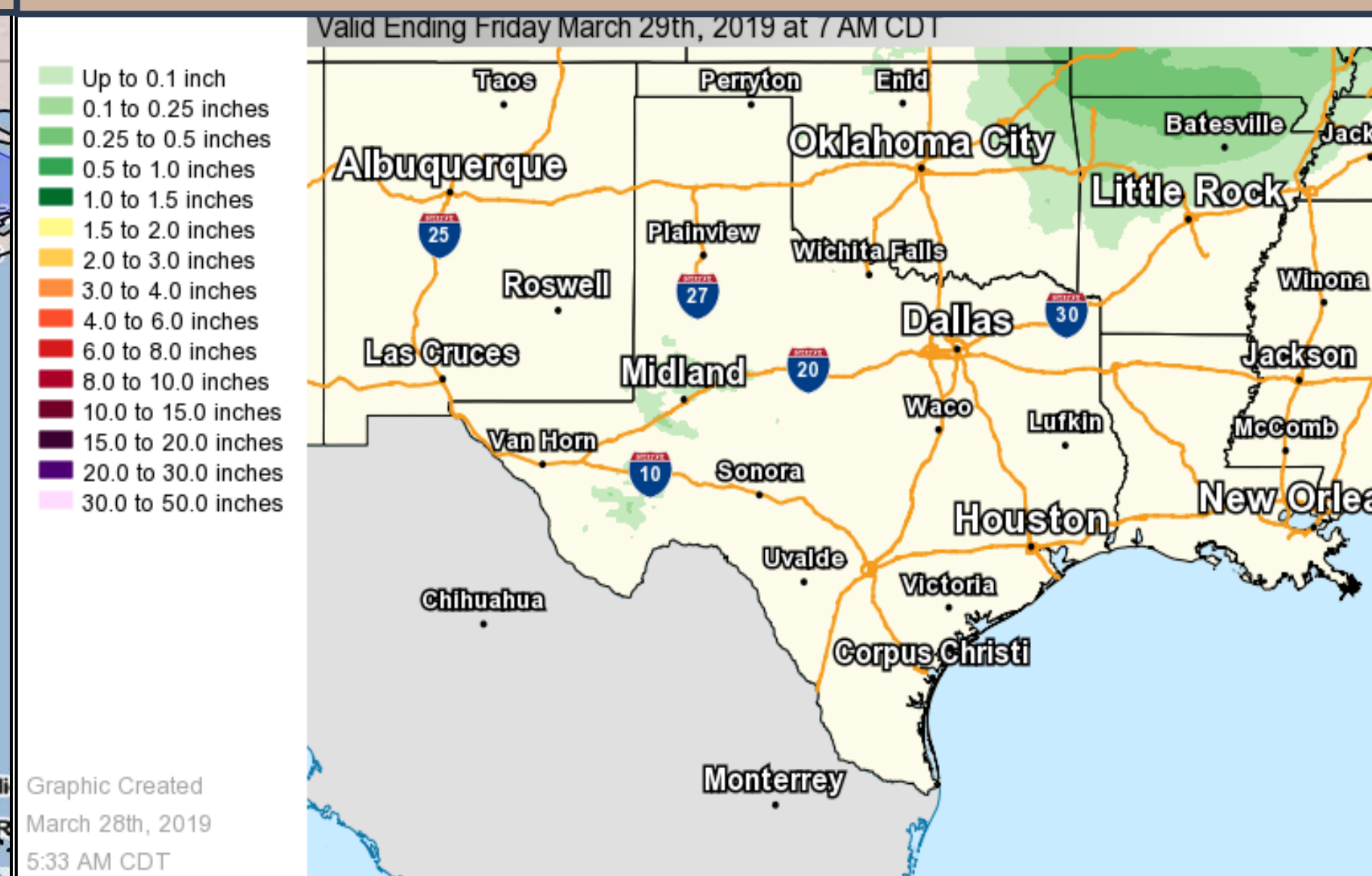


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Forecast Chart

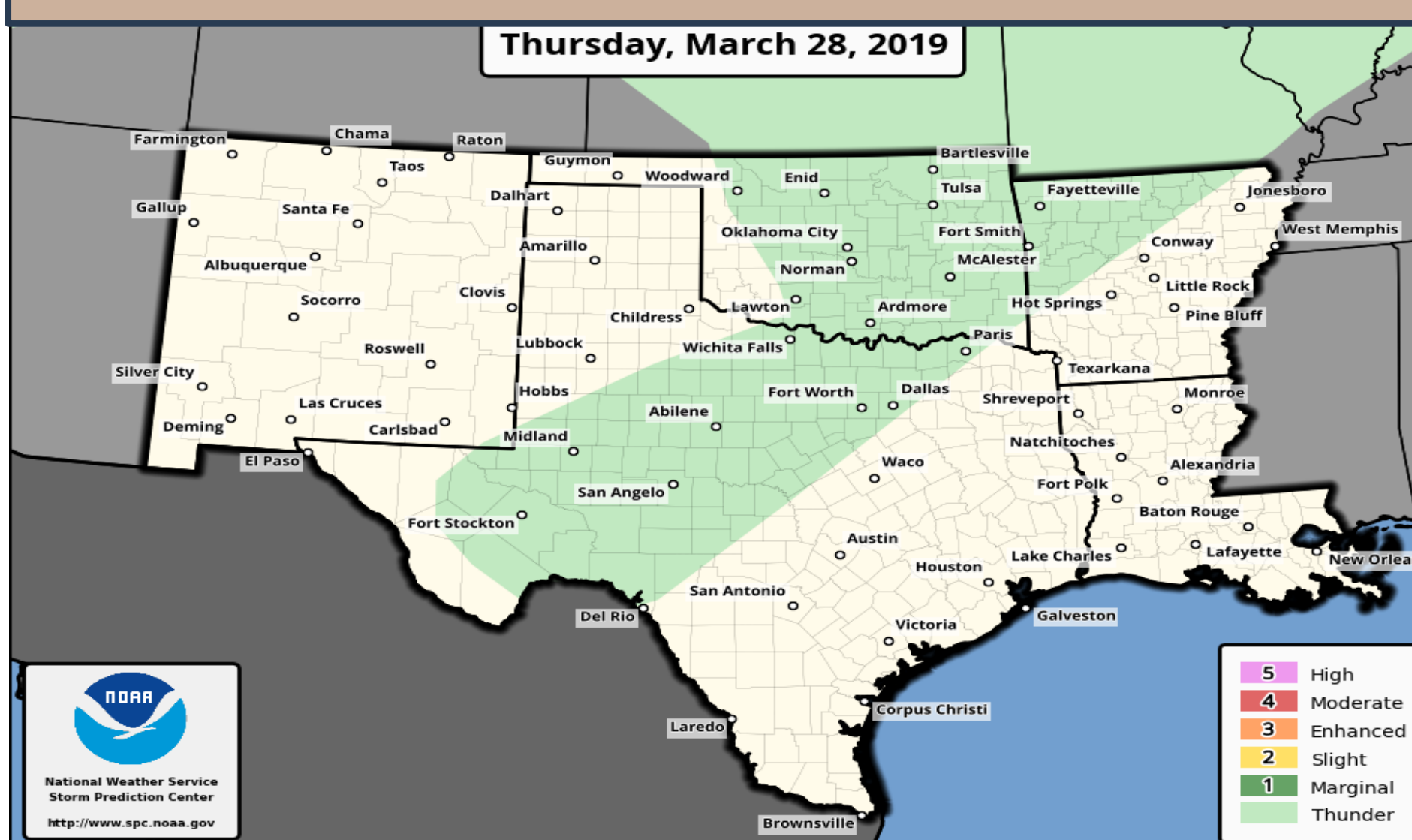


Forecast Rainfall

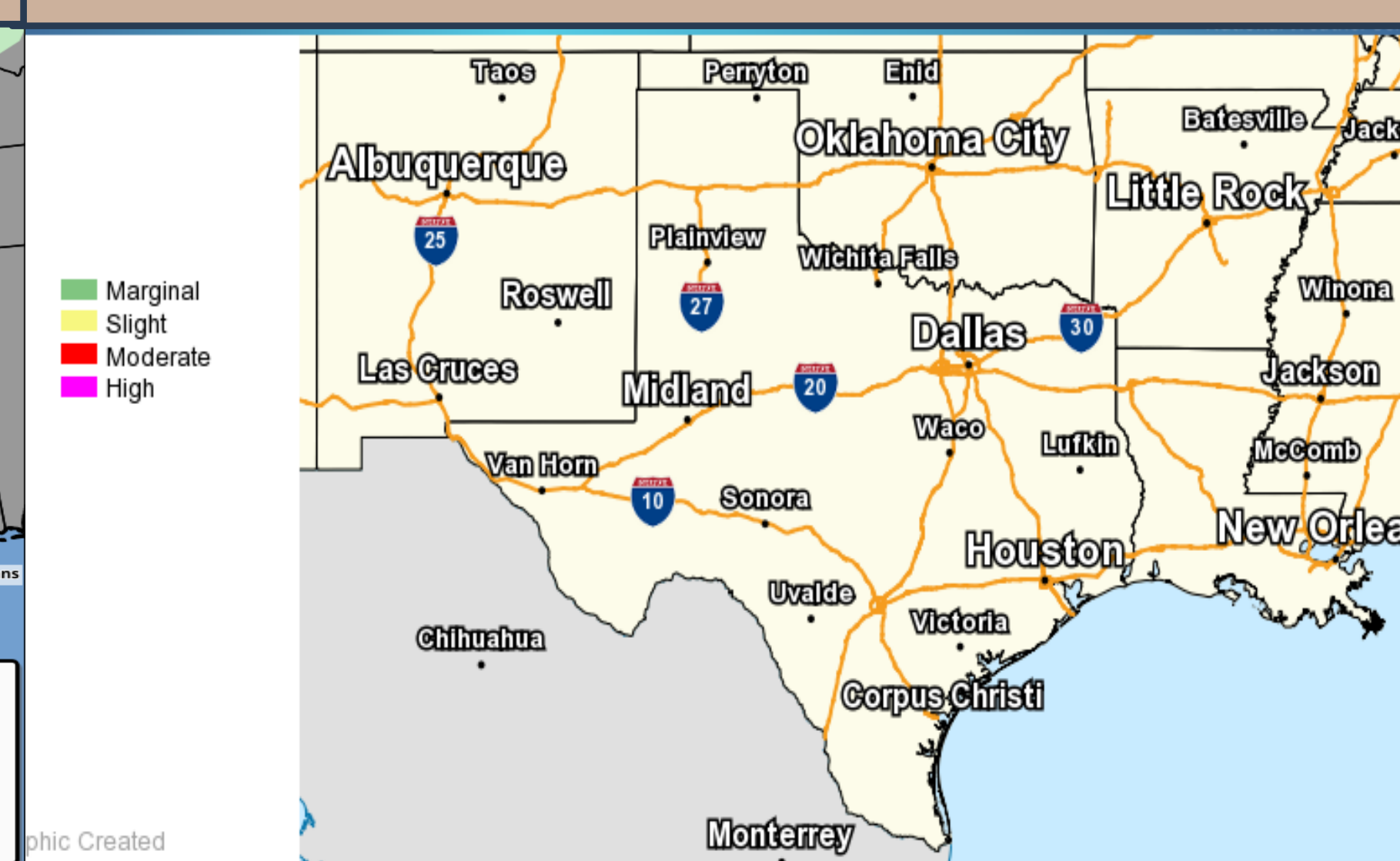


No significant weather impacts expected.

Severe Weather Outlook



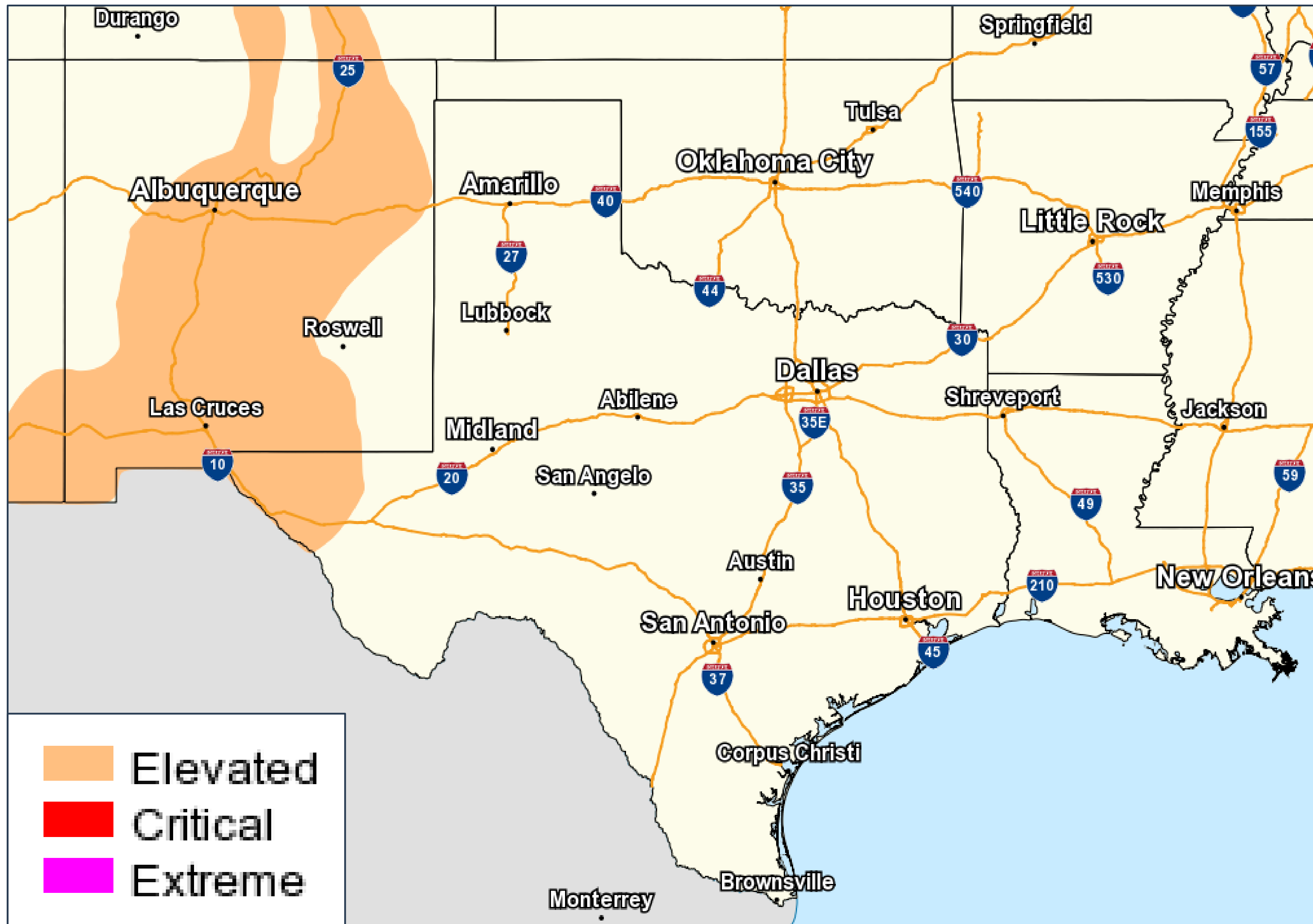
Excessive Rainfall Outlook



Today's Fire Weather Outlook



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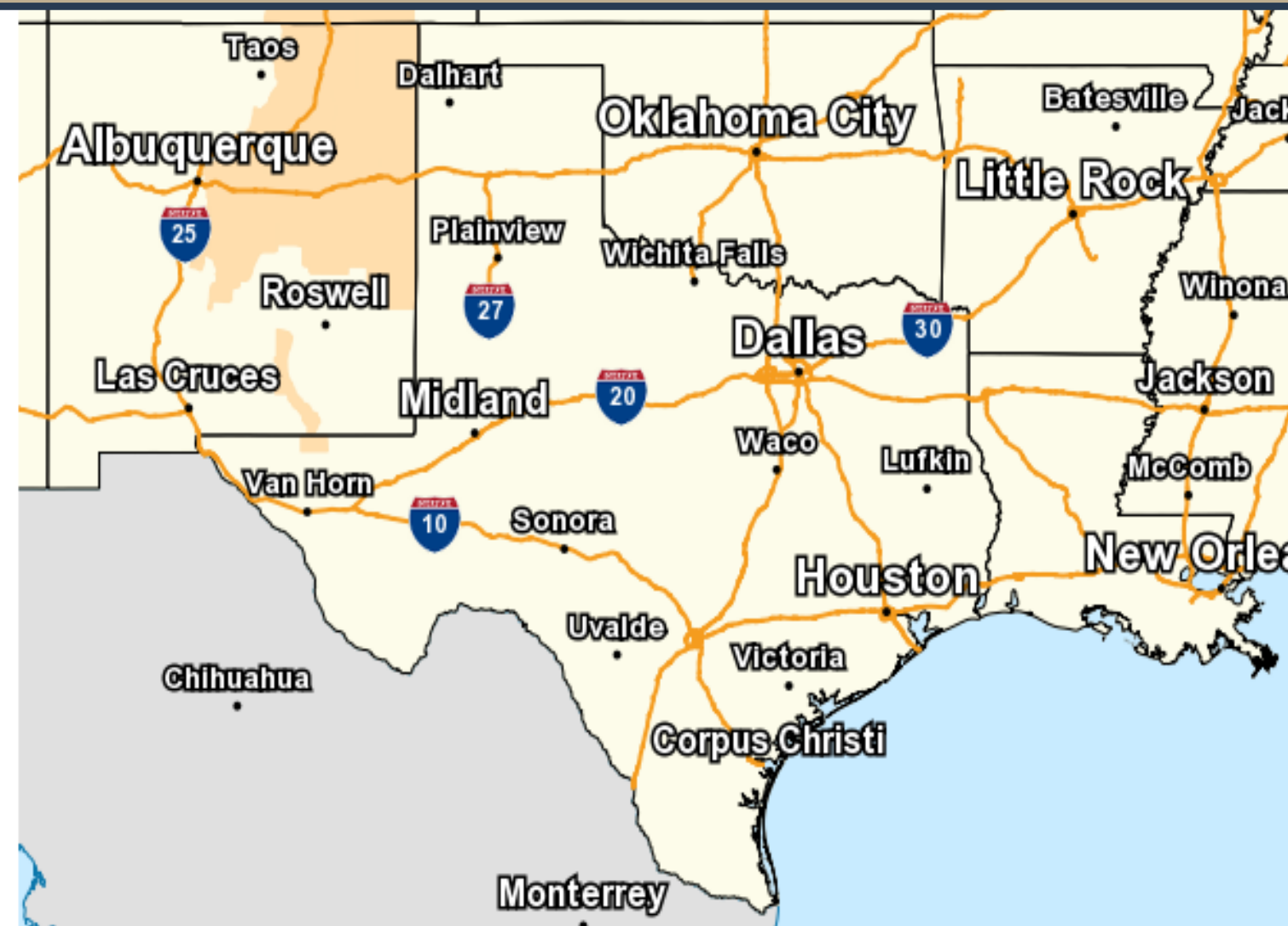
**Elevated fire weather conditions possible
across much of NM into Far West TX.**

Watches, Warnings, and Advisories



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Fire Weather



Severe Weather & Flooding



**Fire Weather Watch in effect
for E NM for expected critical
fire weather conditions on
Friday.**

Strong & Gusty Winds



Winter Weather



Tomorrow's Weather

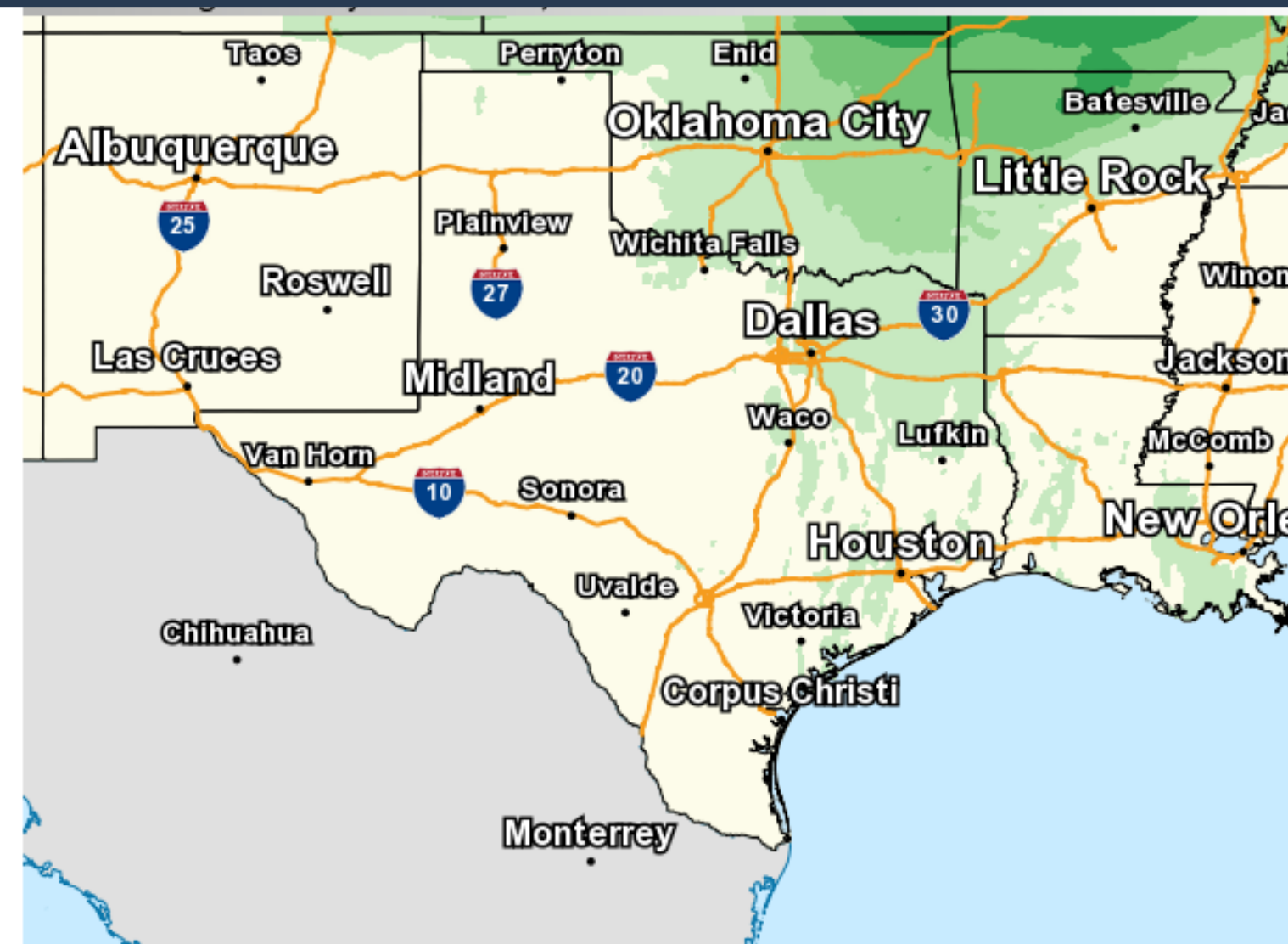
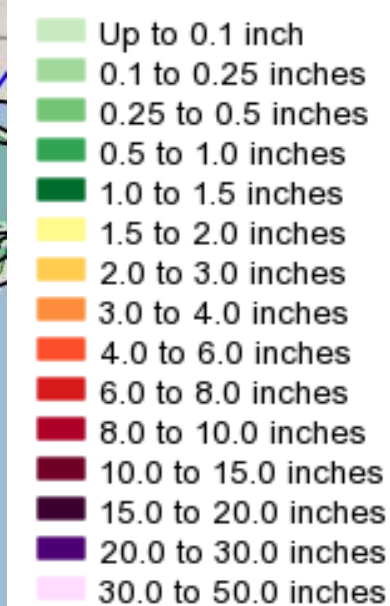
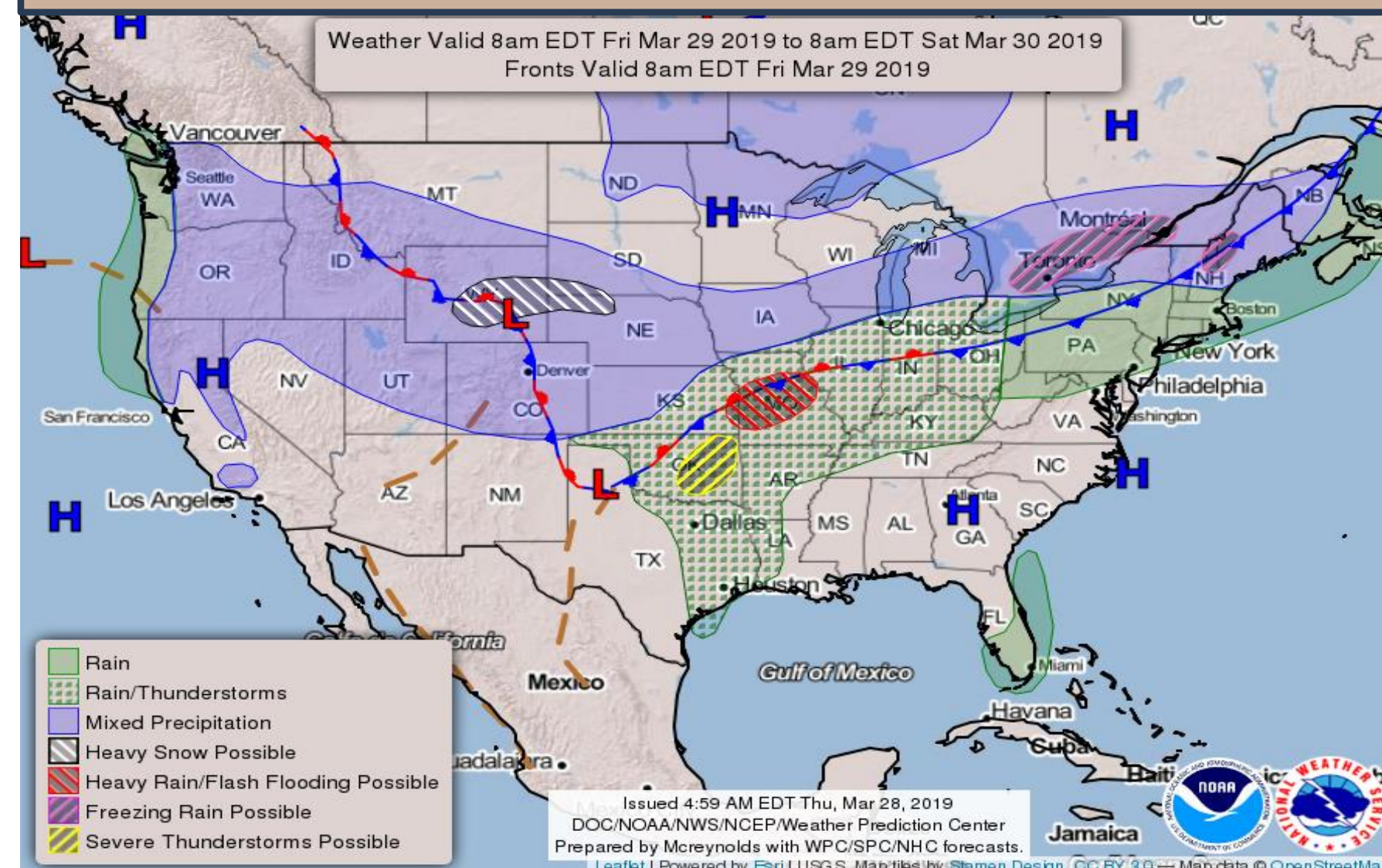


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Forecast Chart

Forecast Rainfall

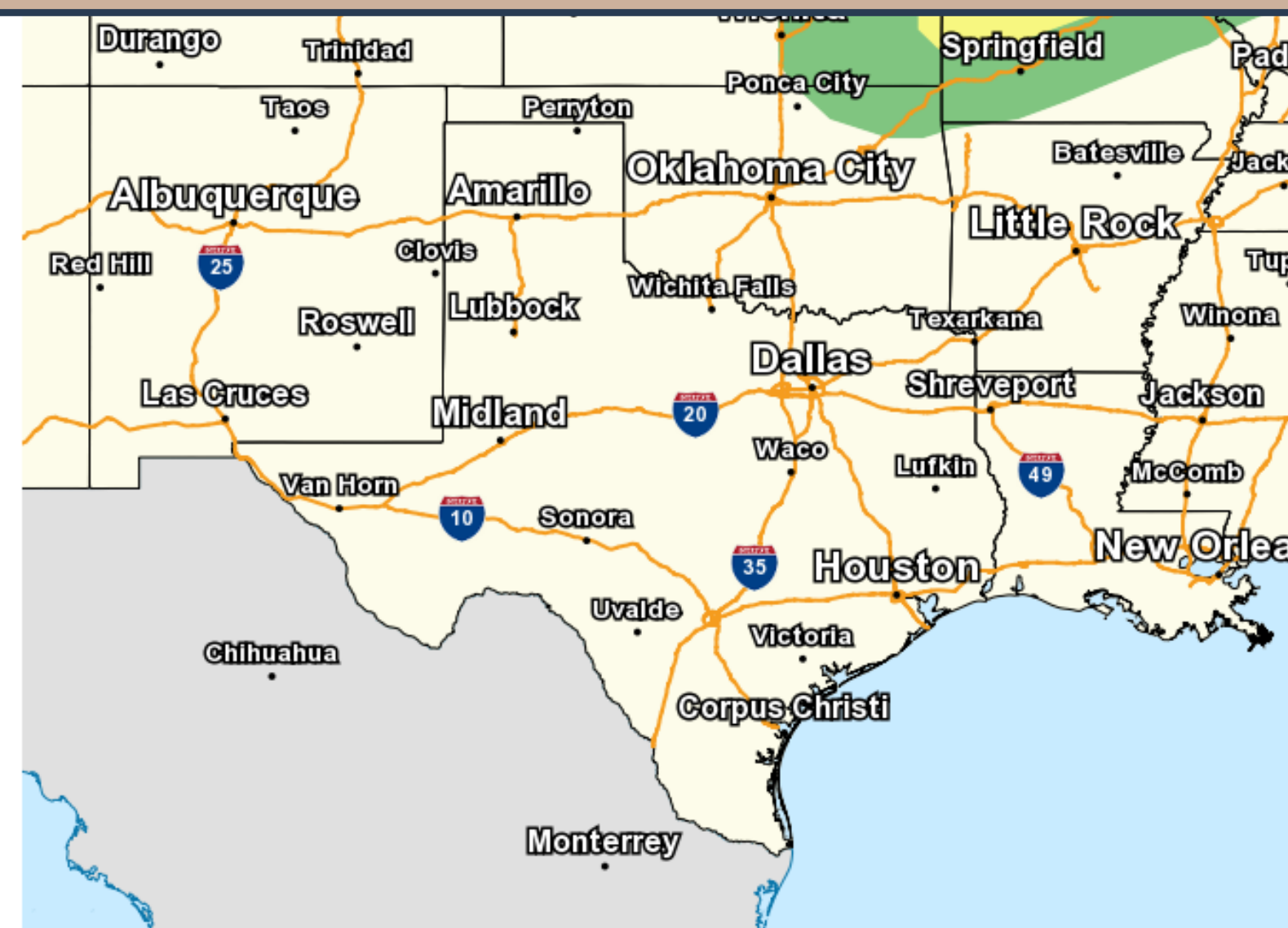
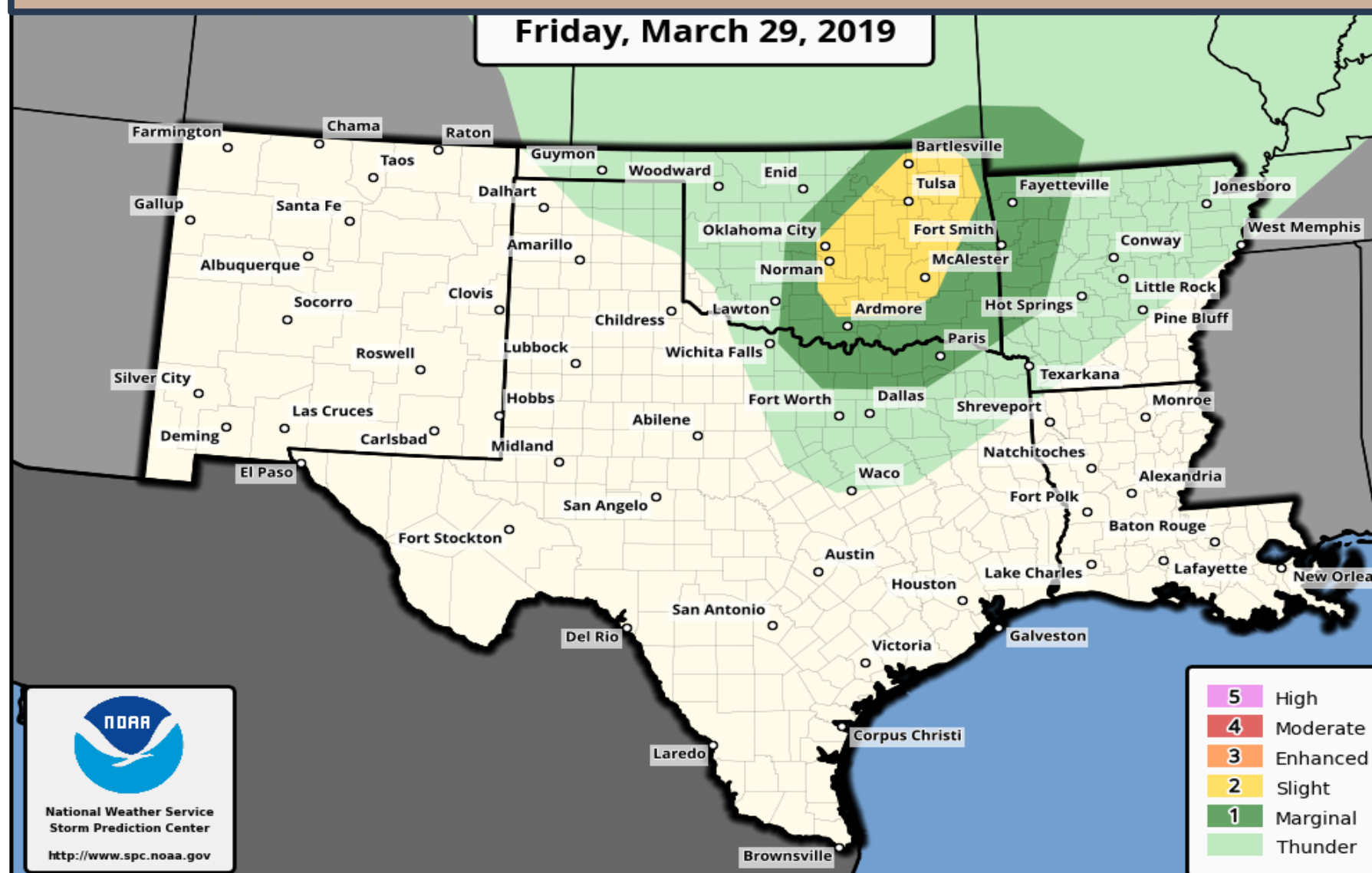
Slight risk area for severe storms across OK.
Primary threat is for large hail.



Graphic Created
March 28th, 2019
5:35 AM CDT

Severe Weather Outlook

Excessive Rainfall Outlook

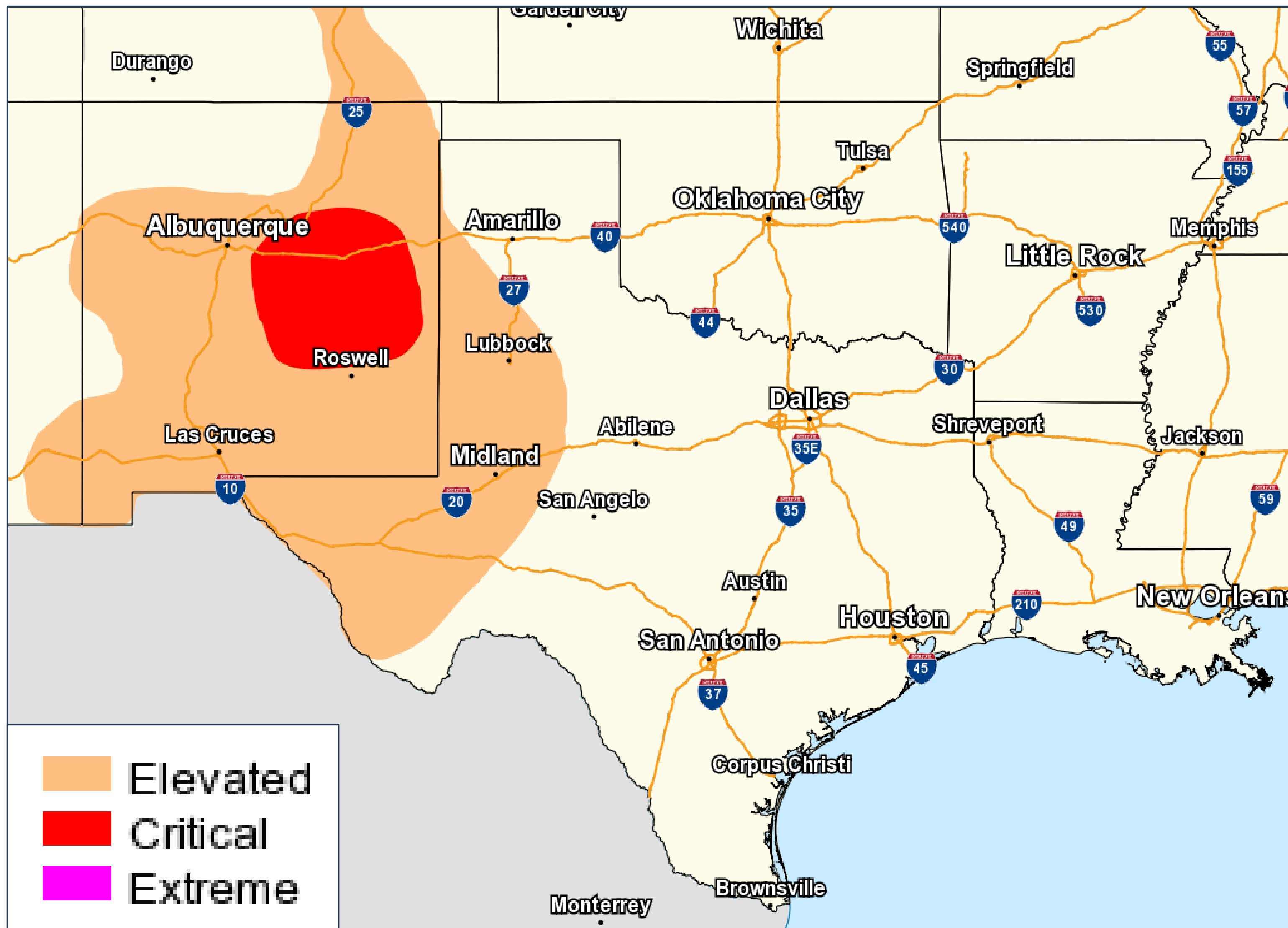


Graphic Created
March 28th, 2019
5:35 AM CDT

Tomorrow's Fire Weather Outlook



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Critical fire weather conditions possible in eastern NM.

Larger area of enhanced fire weather conditions possible across the rest of NM into WTX.

Saturday's Weather



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Forecast Chart

Forecast Rainfall

**Critical fire weather
conditions possible in
E NM/W TX.**

**Isolated severe storms
possible in E AR/NE LA.**

Severe Weather Outlook

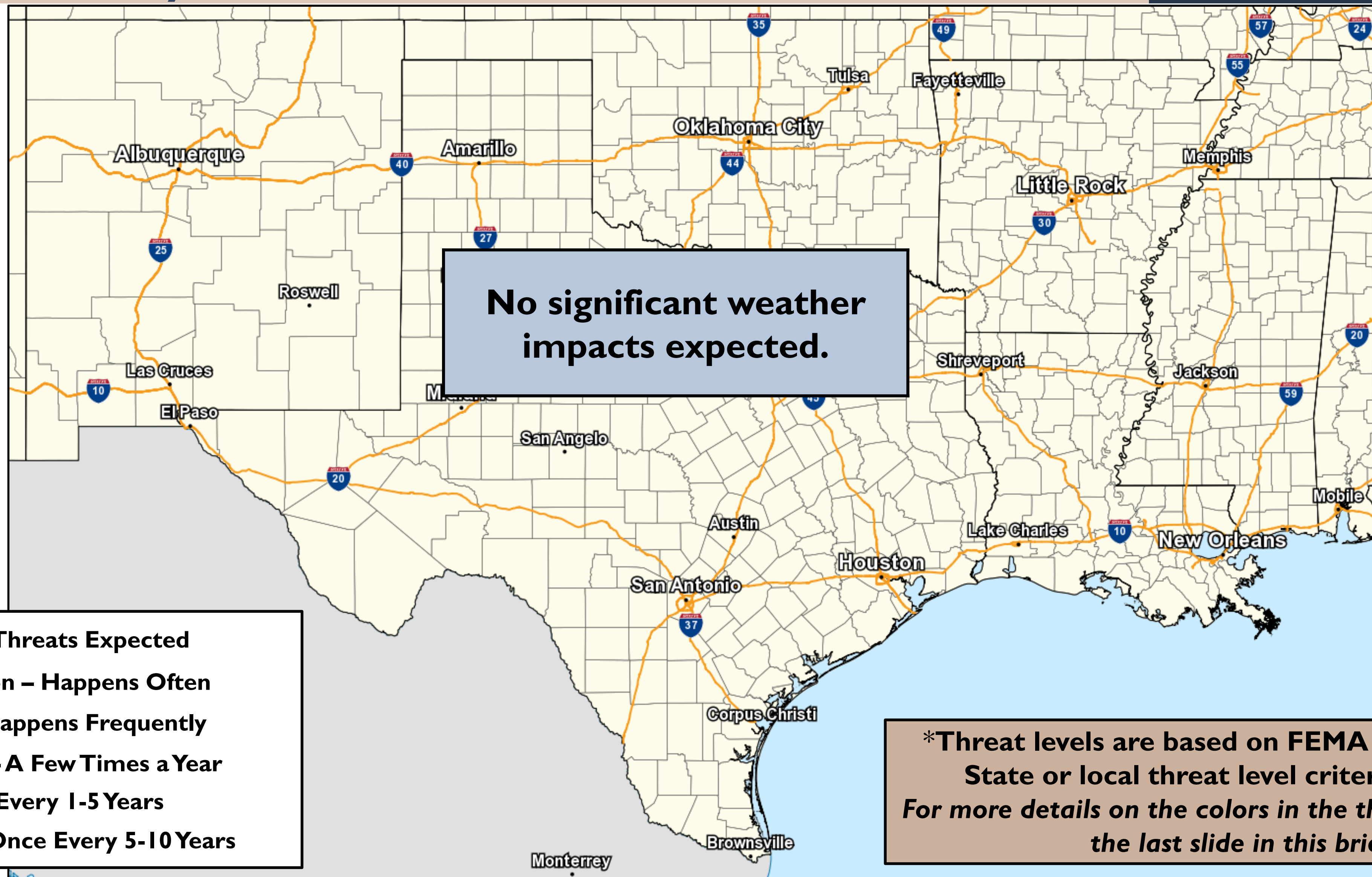
Excessive Rainfall Outlook

Days 4-5 Weather Hazards

Sunday - Monday



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-  No Weather Threats Expected
-  Very Common – Happens Often
-  Common – Happens Frequently
-  Uncommon – A Few Times a Year
-  Rare – Once Every 1-5 Years
-  Very Rare – Once Every 5-10 Years

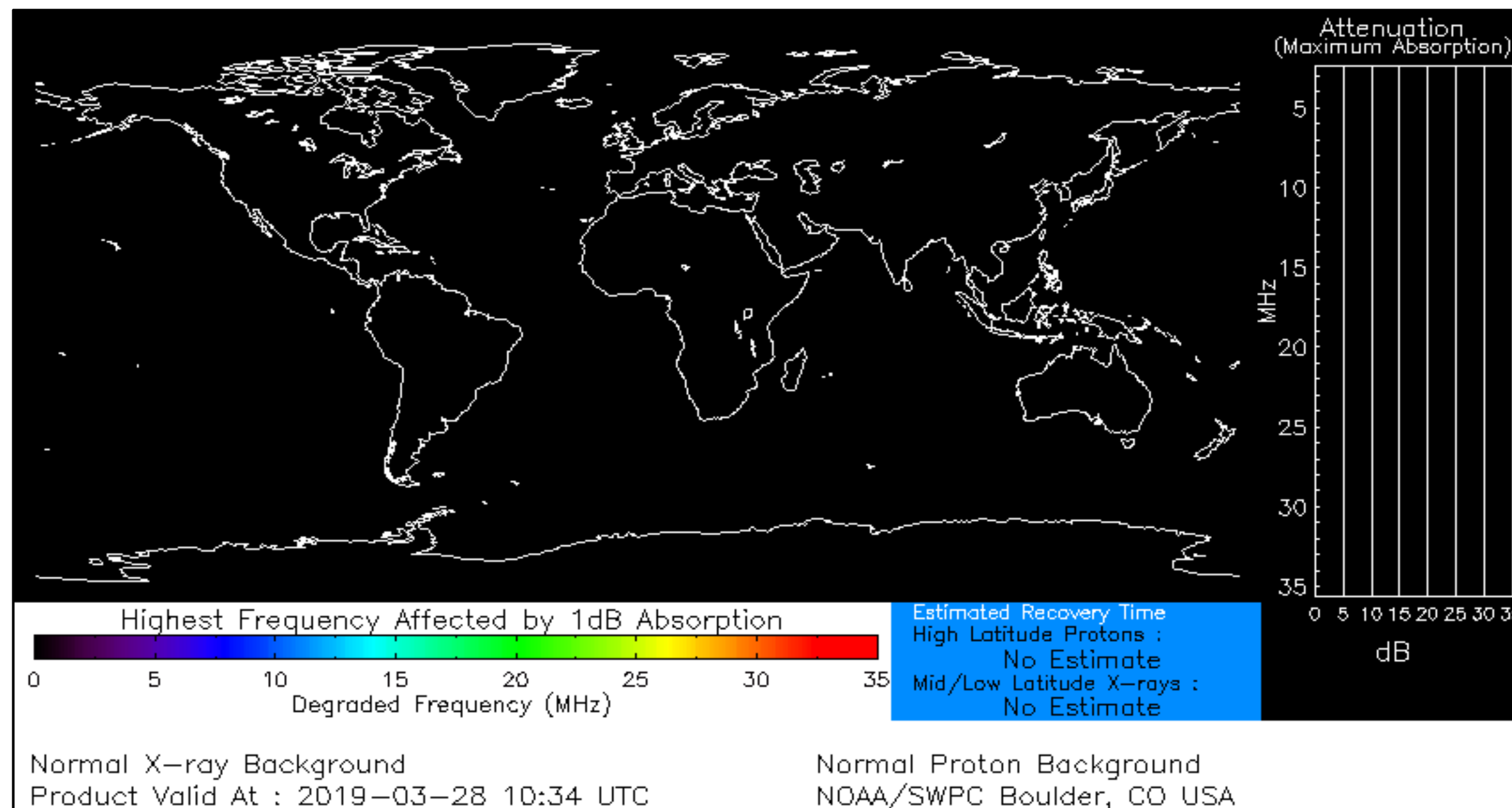
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Space Weather 3-Day Forecast



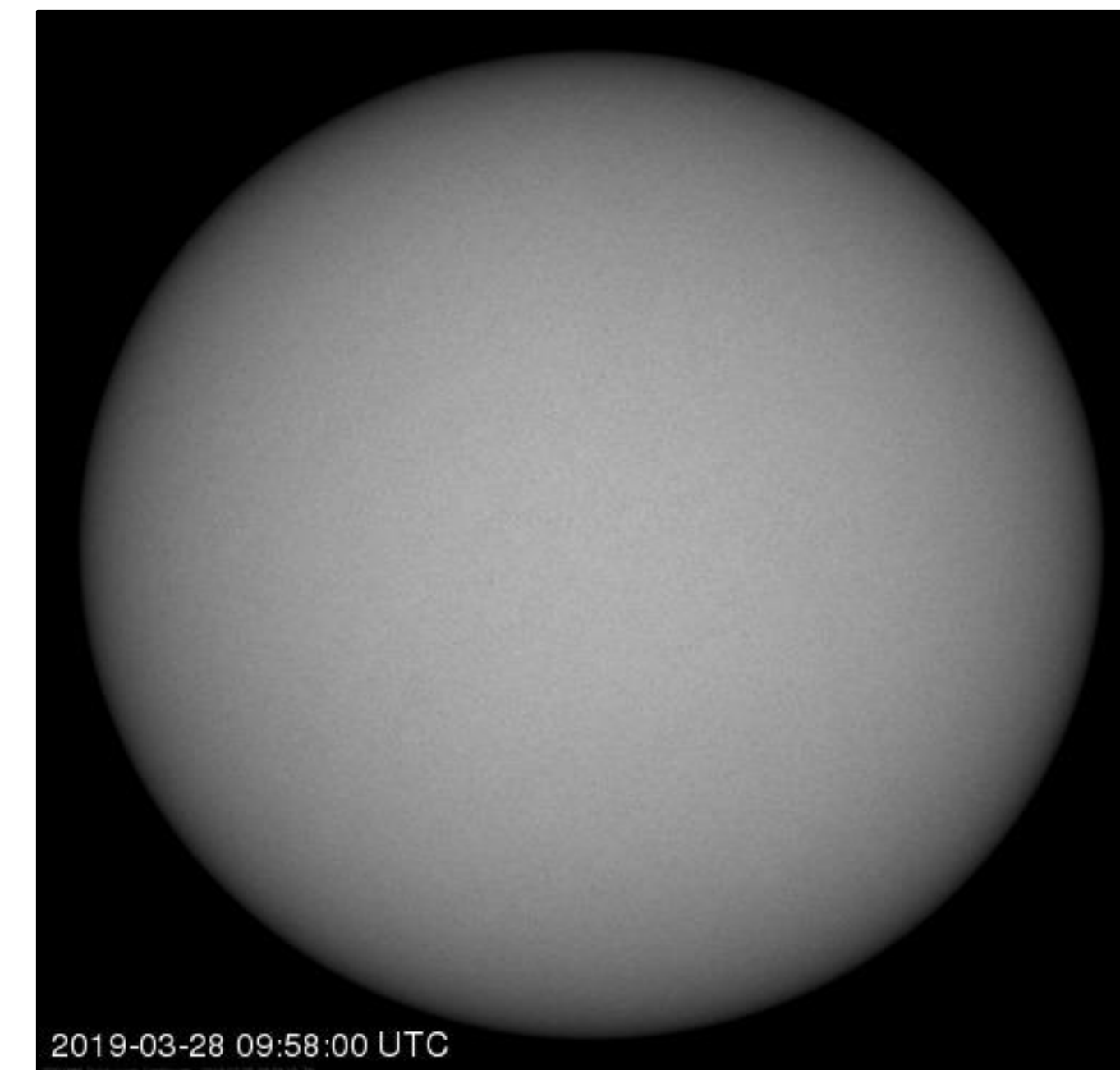
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	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Geomagnetic Storms	Unsettled to Active (Max Kp = 4)	Unsettled (Max Kp = 3)	Quiet (Max Kp = 2)
Solar Radiation Storm (S1-S5)	1%	1%	1%
Radio Blackout (R1-R2)	1%	1%	1%
Radio Blackout (R3-R5)	1%	1%	1%



[Click here for a Description of the Space Weather Storm Scales](#)

[Click here for the Latest 3-Day Space Weather Forecast Text](#)





For more information, please contact:

National Weather Service
Southern Region Headquarters
Regional Operations Center
Fort Worth, TX

Phone: (682) 703-3747

E-mail: sr-srh.roc@noaa.gov

Web: <http://www.weather.gov/srh>



Weather “Threat” Matrix			
Color	Definition	Criteria	Example(s)
Green	Very Common Safety: Rarely a Direct Threat to Life and Property Impact Potential: Typically Results in Little Inconvenience to Daily Routines	Severe: Marginal Risk from SPC Flooding: Minor flooding expected over localized areas Tropical: None Fire Weather: No Watches/Warnings, fuel moisture above 10% or green up active	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Thunderstorms expected over LA this afternoon; a few may produce winds to knock down a few trees Something that happens almost every day in a particular season such as <u>seabreeze</u> storms in coastal TX
Yellow	Somewhat Common – Happens Frequently Safety: Rarely a Direct Threat to Life and Property Impact Potential: Typically Results in Some Inconvenience to Daily Life	Severe: Slight Risk from SPC Flooding: Nuisance flooded expected for a widespread area, or Minor flooding expected over isolated areas Tropical: A weak tropical wave expected to move towards or near any coastline Fire Weather: Red Flag Watches/Warnings and/or SPC outlines enhanced or critical fire outlook	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2-3 inches of rainfall expected over central AR today and tonight; some minor (brief) street flooding possible Scattered severe storms possible, one or two tornadoes expected, along with reports of strong winds/wind damage and ~1” hail
Orange	Uncommon – A Few Times a Year Safety: Often Threatening to Life and Property, Some Damage Unavoidable Impact Potential: Typically Results in Minor Disruption to Daily Life	Severe: Enhanced Risk from SPC Flooding: Minor flooding expected over a widespread area (including urban locations), or Moderate flooding expected over isolated areas Tropical: A Tropical Storm expected to move towards or near any coastline Fire: Critical fire outlook for more than 2 consecutive days, Warnings for 2 or more consecutive days, D3-D4 drought conditions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A snow/sleet mix is expected to move through or near the DFW area tomorrow morning; travel impacts likely Numerous severe storms possible, a few tornadoes possible along with several reports of wind damage along with damaging hail Some large fires reported, burn bans advertised, critical conditions expected
Red	Rare – Once every 1-5 Years Safety: Extensive Property Damage Likely, Life Saving Actions Also will be Needed Impact Potential: Will likely result in Large Disruption to Daily Life	Severe: Moderate Risk from SPC Flooding: Moderate flooding expected over a widespread area (including urban locations) Tropical: A Hurricane expected to move towards or near any coastline Fire: Large areas of critical conditions for 2 or more days, Warnings for 3 or more days, Severe to extreme drought	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A Category 1 hurricane will be moving towards the NW Gulf in the next few days Widespread severe storms likely, strong tornadoes, widespread wind damage, and destructive hail Large fires ongoing throughout the area with critical fire weather conditions expected to continue
Purple	Very Rare – Once Every 5-10 Years Safety: Property Damage Unavoidable, Immediate Action to Save Life will be Needed Impact Potential: Typically Results in Long-Lived Widespread Major Disruption to Daily Life	Severe: High Risk from SPC Flooding: Major flooding expected over a widespread area (including urban locations) Tropical: A Major Hurricane (Cat3 or greater) expected to move towards or near any coastline Fire: Large area of critical conditions for 2 or more days, Warnings for 3 or more days, Long term (months) of severe to extreme drought	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A Category 4 hurricane is headed towards the SE LA; major storm surge, flooding and damaging winds anticipated to begin tomorrow Widespread severe storms expected, tornado outbreak probable with long-lived, very widespread and particularly intense storms

Criteria for the color codes in this briefing is to the left, please provide any feedback to

sr-srh.roc@noaa.gov